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NAVAL PERSONNEL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY

Washington D.C. 20190

WSR 70-3

December 1969

SUPERVISORS' ASSESSMENTS
OF THE GRADUATES OF THE
ASSOCIATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

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WSR 70-3

December 1969

SUPERVISORS' ASSESSMENTS OF THE GRADUATES OF THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

(T. I. No. 574036901)

by

T. W. Muldrow

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Motivational and Survey Research Division Naval Personnel Research and Development Laboratory Washington, D. C. 20390

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FOREWORD

SUBMITTED BY

E. P. SOMER

Director, Motivational and Survey Research Division

APPROVED

R. E. McCOY Commander, U. S. Navy Commanding Officer E. M. RAMRAS Technical Director

SUMMARY

Purpose

The objective of this survey was to determine how supervisors of graduates of the Associate Degree Completion Program (ADCOP) felt participation in the program affected the graduates' on-the-job performance and general attitude toward the Navy.

Approach

During the last week of July 1968 a questionnaire was mailed to each of the supervisors (N=41) of ADCOP's first group of graduating participants. Follow-up questionnaires were mailed three weeks later to non-respondents. Reported data are based upon a 100% response to the questionnaires.

Findings

The majority of the supervisors felt that the ADCOP graduate was a greater asset to the Navy because of his junior college schooling, and that ADCOP would prove to be beneficial to the Navy and to the men who participate in the program.

Supervisors rated at least 70% of the graduates as "highly satisfactory" or "outstanding" on 31 subfactors related to their work. The highest ratings were given for those areas included under the major factor "Adaptability on the Job as a Whole," such as cooperation with supervisors, dependability, relations with fellow workers, and willingness to learn.

Nine out of ten supervisors considered the ADCOP graduate better in communication skills than his non-ADCOP peers and indicated more would be expected of the ADCOP graduate.

Twenty-four (59%) of the supervisors wrote comments which reflected positive attitudes toward the value of the program. Generally, the graduates were considered to be very competent in oral and written communication skills. However, these supervisors indicated in their comments, that they found it difficult to assess improvement in the graduates performance and felt it would have been much easier if they had known the individual prior to his entering the program. The general feeling was that the men were probably "outstanding" before their participation in ADCOP.

REPORT USE AND EVALUATION

Feedback from consumers is a vital element in improving products so that they better respond to specific needs. To assist the Chief of Naval Personnel in future planning, it is requested that the use and evaluation form on the reverse of this page be completed and returned. The page is preaddressed and franked; fold in thirds, seal with tape, and mail.

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Chief of Naval Personnel (Pers-A3) Department of the Navy Washington, D. C. 20370 Report Title & No.:

Supervisors' Assessments of the Graduates of the Associate Degree Completion Program WSR 70-3

ι.	Evaluation	of Report.	Please	check	appropriate	column.
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	I	RATIN	G	
FACTORS	LOW	AVE	HIGH	COMMENTS
Usefulness of Data				·
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Presentation & Style				
Other				

- 2. Use of Report. Please fill in answers as appropriate.
 - a. What are your main uses for the material contained in the report?
 - b. What changes would you recommend in report format to make it more useful?
 - c. What types of research would be most useful to you for the Chief of Naval Personnel to conduct?
 - d. Do you wish to remain on our distribution list?
 - e. Please make any general comments you feel would be helpful to us in planning our research program.

NAME:	CODE:
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INTRODUCTION

A. <u>Purpose</u>

The objective of this survey was to determine how supervisors of graduates of the Associate Degree Completion Program (ADCOP) felt participation in the program affected the graduates' on-the-job performance, aspirations and general attitude towards the Navy.

B. Background

ADCOP was instituted in the Fall of 1966 in order to offer highly motivated career petty officers the opportunity to pursue a course of instruction in a junior college which leads to an Associate of Arts/Science degree in various vocational-technical fields. Students are required to pursue a field of study which is closely related to their rating and which will serve to improve proficiency in that rating.

Thus far there have been four inputs into the program (Fall, 1966; Fall, 1967; Fall, 1968; and Winter, 1968). These groups represent 270 enlisted personnel who have entered ADCOP.

In order to assist the Enlisted Personnel Division (Pers-B2), Bureau of Naval Personnel, in its evaluation and plans for expansion of the program a comprehensive study was undertaken which required the administration of three questionnaires to participants at three specific times: (1) upon entry into the program (ENTRY Questionnaire); (2) at time of graduation (GRADUATION Questionnaire); and (3) six months after graduation (POST Questionnaire). Concurrently with the POST Questionnaire, the supervisor is requested to provide a confidential evaluation of each participant (COMMANDING OFFICER Questionnaire). This evaluation is used for research purposes only and will not become a part of the individual's personnel file. The following studies were completed:

In October 1967, the <u>first</u> ENTRY Questionnaire was administered to each student then enrolled at one of the four participating junior colleges. These 142 students were members of the first (Fall, 1966) and second (Fall, 1967) input groups. The findings of this survey were published in December 1967 (1).

The <u>first</u> GRADUATION Questionnaire was administered in January 1968 to the 41 men who comprised ADCOP's first graduating class. Each of these men entered ADCOP in Fall 1966. Results of this survey were published in June 1968 (2).

ADCOP's <u>second</u> graduation was held June 14-15, 1968. This graduating class was composed of 36 enlisted men and one enlisted WAVE. Twenty-six students were from the first input group, and 11 were from the second input group. This group of graduates was surveyed by GRADUATION Questionnaire in May 1968 and the findings were published in September 1968 (3).

The first POST Questionnaire was administered in July 1968 to the 41 men who comprised ADCOP's first graduating class and had returned to the fleet. Results of this survey were published in October 1968 (4).

Reported herein are the findings of the first administration of the COMMANDING OFFICER Questionnaire.

APPROACH

A. Development and Description of Questionnaire

The COMMANDING OFFICER Questionnaire was developed following discussions with representatives of the Enlisted Personnel Division (Pers-B2). This questionnaire was composed of 19 multiple choice questions, an openend question and an evaluation on 31 performance factors. The survey instrument was to provide an evaluation of the effect of ADCOP on the participants' performance in his rating, his interpersonal relationships in the Navy, and his potential benefit to the Navy. Respondents were given the opportunity to write in comments about the man being evaluated. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in Appendix A.

B. Collection of Data

During July 1968 questionnaires were mailed to each commanding officer (N=41) of the ADCOP graduates with a request that the graduate's supervisor complete the questionnaire. Follow-up questionnaires were mailed three weeks later to non-respondents. Data were eventually obtained from all supervisors surveyed.

C. <u>Description of Raters (Supervisors)</u>

Thirty-two (78%) of the supervisors were Lieutenants, five (12%) were Lieutenant Commanders, and four (10%) were Commanders. Twenty-one raters (51%) were immediate supervisors of the individuals being rated, and the remaining 20 (49%) served in positions such as department heads, Division Officers, Executive Officers and other administrative type jobs, but were not functioning as immediate supervisors of the graduates. Thirty (73%) of these supervisors had known the graduates at least three months when asked to evaluate them.

D. Description of Ratees (ADCOP Graduates)

At the time of evaluation by their supervisors, each of the graduates had been out of the program for six months. Each of them were among the initial selectees for ADCOP. Forty-four percent were E-6s, thirty-nine percent were E-7s, seven percent were E-8s, seven percent were E-9s, and three percent were E-5s when they were rated. More than 50% were on their third or later enlistment, and had from nine to thirteen years of Active Federal Military Service (AFMS). The median age of these ratees was 28 years and 78% were married.

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FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Perceived Benefit of ADCOP Participation

The supervisors were asked to measure any improvement in the graduate's performance which could be attributed to his ADCOP schooling. As a basis for evaluation the graduate was to be compared with peers in the same pay grade and rating who had not participated in the program. However, it should be noted that these supervisors were asked to evaluate men whom they did not know prior to ADCOP schooling so no measure of improvement is possible.

As shown below, nine out of ten supervisors considered the ADCOP graduate somewhat better in communication skills, and a better representative of the Navy than his non-ADCOP peers. In the other areas of personal attributes and work performance the ADCOP graduate excelled his non-ADCOP counterpart.

B. Ranking of Areas Perceived as Benefits of ADCOP Participation (Much and slightly better combined)

Communication Skills	(90%)
Good Representative of the Navy	(90%)
Enthusiasm about Work	(77%)
Evidence of Initiative	(73%)
Ability to Get Along with those Under Whom He Is Working	(69%)
Evidence of Leadership Ability	(68%)
Ability to Get Along with Peers	(62%)
Professional Proficiency	(57%)
Technical Performance on Job	(54%)
Ability to Get Along with those Working under Him	(53%)

Almost all (98%) of the supervisors felt that the ADCOP graduate was a greater asset to the Navy because of his junior college schooling. A majority (85%) felt that ADCOP would prove to be beneficial to the Navy and to the men who participate in the program.

C. Adjustment of ADCOP Graduates to Military Life and Standards of Job Performance Expected from ADCOP Graduates

Of those supervisors (37) who felt they were in a position to make a judgment about the men, 35 (95%) felt the ADCOP graduate made the readjustment to military life easily. Thirty-seven (90%) of the respondents indicated they expected a higher standard of performance on the job from ADCOP graduates because of their participation in the program.

D. Attitude Toward Navy Life After Participation in ADCOP

The supervisors were asked to assess the graduates' attitudes toward Navy life since completion of ADCOP. They expressed an opinion on change in attitude toward the Navy on less than half of the graduates. Of these 19 graduates, the supervisors felt that eight showed a more favorable attitude, eight showed no detectable change, and three showed a less favorable attitude toward the Navy.

E. Rank Aspirations

Supervisors were asked whether they thought attendance at ADCOP had increased the rank aspirations of the graduates they were supervising. Of the 35 who expressed an opinion, 27 (77%) felt participation in ADCOP had increased the rank aspirations of the graduates. Thirty-two (78%) felt the ADCOP participants were capable of attaining Warrant or Commissioned Officer status before leaving active duty.

F. Ratings of ADCOP Graduates

The last page of the COMMANDING OFFICER Questionnaire was designed as a rating form to be used in the evaluation of the graduates in areas related to their work. There were four major factors containing 31 subfactors on which the men were to be rated. The major factors were: "Adaptability on the Job as a Whole," "Quality of Work," "Productiveness," and "Effectiveness." On each item listed as a subfactor, at least 70% of the graduates were rated as "highly satisfactory" or "outstanding." The highest ratings were given for items included under the major factor "Adaptability on the Job as a Whole." Ninety-three percent were rated either "highly satisfactory" or "outstanding" on cooperation with supervisors, and attitudes, willingness to learn. Nine out of ten were viewed as "highly satisfactory" or "outstanding" on dependability, relations with fellow workers, and observance of rules.

G. Comments

At the end of the questionnaire form, space was alloted for any comments the supervisors might wish to make concerning ADCOP. Twenty-four of the respondents made comments.

In general, the supervisors reported a positive attitude toward the program. Examples of typical comments are:

"Navy should feel extremely satisfied"

"Provides men with strong background in oral and written communication skills"

"Graduate able to use information gained through ADCOP very effectively"

"Good program for extension of service"

"Graduate has greater potential than his peers"

"Demonstrates a more comprehensive understanding of technical skills than others in same pay grade."

One specific criticism was made frequently. The supervisors felt it was difficult to assess any improvement in the graduates performance since they did not know the individuals prior to ADCOP.

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REFERENCES

- 1. Ware, S. B., Motivational Effects of the Associate Degree Completion Program Report 1, Washington, D. C.: Naval Personnel Program Support Activity, Personnel Surveys Division, December 1967. (WRR 68-8)
- 2. Ware, S. B., Motivational Effects of the Associate Degree Completion Program Report 2, Washington, D. C.: Naval Personnel Program Support Activity, Personnel Surveys Division, June 1968. (WRR 68-19)
- 3. Muldrow, T. W., <u>Motivational Effects of the Associate Degree Completion Program Report 3</u>, Washington, D. C.: Naval Personnel Program Support Activity, Personnel Surveys Division, September 1968. (WSR 69-1)
- 4. Muldrow, T. W., An Appraisal of the Associate Degree Completion Program by Its Graduates, Washington, D. C.: Naval Personnel Research and Development Laboratory, Motivational and Survey Research Division, October 1969. (WSR 70-2)

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APPENDIX A

Copy of Survey Questionnaire

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ASSOCIATE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM

SURVEY NO. 4
COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

NAY SPECIAL SURVEY

In order to assist the Bureau of Naval Personnel in their evaluation of the Associate Degree Completion Program, it is requested that the attached questionnaire be completed. This questionnaire is to be answered by an officer, preferably the ADCOP graduate's supervisor, who is at least a career Lieutenant and in daily contact with the graduate. The responses given will be regarded as confidential and will not become a part of the individual's personnel file or be used for assignment or promotion purposes.

Your cooperation in completing this questionnaire as fully and accurately as possible will be appreciated. When you have completed the questionnaire, review your answers to insure that all questions were answered. Please return the completed questionnaire within seven (7) days of receipt in the enclosed envelope.

BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS:

Read each question carefully and select the answer that best applies by circling the letter preceding it. Print clearly the letter for your answer (questions 3-12) where boxes are provided. Please complete this questionnaire without the ratee's knowledge. Add any clarifying comments to each question that may occur to you.

	6					
		Graduat	e's Name:		First	
				Last	First	M.1.
		Service	Number:			
		Rating:				rade:
Name	e of	Rater _	Last		First	M.I.
Bil	let	Title of	Rater			
1.	Are	you the	immediat	e supervis	or of this individ	dual?
	•	Yes No				
			specify r	elationshi	р	
2.		has the OP studer		justed to	military life afte	er having been an
	Α.	He hasn'	t comple	tely made	the adjustment	

He is having difficulty making the adjustment

B. He made the adjustment easily

No judgment can be made

With a view toward measuring any improvement in performance attributable to ADCOP schooling, evaluate this man in the areas listed below. As a basis for evaluation, compare this man with others in the same paygrade and rating by placing the appropriate letter in the box to the left of each item.

- A. Much better
- B. Slightly better
- C. About same
- D. Not as good
- E. Don't know

3.	Enthusiasm about his work
4.	Communication skills (reading, writing and/or speaking)
5.	Technical performance on job
6.	Evidence of leadership ability
7.	Evidence of iniative
8.	Good representative of the Navy
9.	Professional proficiency
10.	Ability to get along with peers
11.	Ability to get along with those working under him
12.	Ability to get along with those under whom he is working

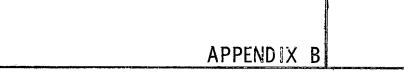
- 13. Do you think the ratee's attitude towards the Navy has changed since completion of ADCOP?
 - A. His attitude is much more favorable
 - B. His attitude is slightly more favorable
 - C. Cannot detect any change
 - D. His attitude is slightly less favorable
 - E. His attitude is less favorable
 - F. Don't know

- 14. Do you expect a higher standard of performance on the job from this man because of his ADCOP schooling?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 15. Do you think attendance at ADCOP school has increased the ratee's rank aspirations?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Don't know
- 16. What is the highest grade you think this man is capable of attaining while on active duty?
 - A. Petty Officer, second class
 - B. Petty Officer, first class
 - C. Chief Petty Officer
 - D. Senior Chief Petty Officer
 - E. Master Chief Petty Officer
 - F. Warrant Officer
 - H. Commissioned Officer
 - I. Don't know
- 17. Do you feel this man is a greater asset to the Navy because of his recent schooling in the Associate Degree Completion Program?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 18. Who, in your opinion, stands to gain the most from the Associate Degree Completion Program?
 - A. Both the Navy and the man will benefit
 - B. The man has more to gain than the Navy
 - C. The Navy will benefit most
 - D. Neither the man nor the Navy will benefit
- 19. How long have you been in position to evaluate the ratee on the information contained in the above question?
 - A. One month or less
 - B. More than 1 but less than 3 months
 - C. Three but less than 5 months
 - D. Five but less than 7 months
 - E. Seven months or more

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21. Please complete the evaluation sheet on the next page.

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1. APPLICATION TO DUTY (CONSERVATION OF TIME)						<u> </u>
2. OBSERVANCE OF RULES (CONDUCT, SAFETY, ETC,)						
3 Cooperation with supervisors						
4. RELATIONS WITH FELLOW WORKERS			<u> </u>			<u> </u>
5. ATTITUDES, WILLINGNESS TO LEARN						
6. USE OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS			ļ			
7. DEPENDABILITY		····				
8. INITIATIVE AND RESOURCEFULNESS						
9. VERSATILITY			ļ			
O. Effectiveness in organizing			ļ			
1. Decisiveness			ļ			
2. Leavership						
3. GENERAL ADJUSTMENT TO CONDITIONS OF WORK	Ī					
AND/OR NAVY LIFE						**************************************
FACTOR 11. QUALITY OF WORK (SUMMARY RATING)			 			<u> </u>
4. ACQUEACY AND THOROUGHNESS OF WORK			-		*	i
5. NEATHESS, PRESENTABILITY AND ACCEPTABILITY OF WORK						
6. Soundness of Judgments and decisions						
7. Effectiveness in presenting ideas or facts						
8. Effectiveness in meeting and dealing						İ
WITH PEOPLE					. 3. 3. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10. 10	der the passage number
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9. AMOUNT OF ACCEPTABLE WORK PRODUCED			<u> </u>			-
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1. TECHNICAL ABILITY						-
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Supporting Table

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TABLE 1

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

Q 1. Are you the immediate supervisor of this individual?

Total 100%

- 51 A. Yes
- 49 B. No
- Q 2. How has the ratee adjusted to military life after having been an ADCOP student?

- He hasn't completely made the adjustment
- 85 B. He made the adjustment easily
- He is having difficulty making the adjustment No judgment can be made
- 10 D.

TABLE 1 (Continued)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

With a view toward measuring any improvement in performance attributable to ADCOP schooling, evaluate this man in the areas listed below. As a basis for evaluation, compare this man with others in the same pay grade and rating by placing the appropriate letter in the box to the left of each item.	A. Much better B. Slightly better C. About same D. Not as good E. Don't know

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A	46 20 20 29 32 32 37 37
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TABLE 1 (Continued)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

Q13. Do you think the ratee's attitude towards the Navy has changed since completion of ADCOP?

Total 100%

- 17 A. His attitude is much more favorable
- 2 B. His attitude is slightly more favorable
- 20 C. Cannot detect any change
- 2 D. His attitude is slightly less favorable
- 5 E. His attitude is much less favorable
- 54 F. Don't know
- Q14. Do you expect a higher standard of performance on the job from this man because of his ADCOP schooling?

Total 100%

- 90 A. Yes
- 10 B. No
- Q15. Do you think attendance at ADCOP school has increased the ratee's rank aspirations?

- 66 A. Yes
- 19 B. No
- 15 C. Don't know

TABLE 1 (Continued)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

Q16. What is the highest grade you think this man is capable of attaining while on active duty?

Total 100%

- -- A. Petty Officer, second class
- -- B. Petty Officer, first class
- -- C. Chief Petty Officer
- 8 D. Senior Chief Petty Officer
- 12 E. Master Chief Petty Officer
- 15 F. Warrant Officer
- 63 H. Commissioned Officer
- 2 I. Left Blank
- Q17. Do you feel this man is a greater asset to the Navy because of his recent schooling in the Associate Degree Completion Program?

Total 100%

- 98 A. Yes
- 2 B. No
- Q18. Who, in your opinion, stands to gain the most from the Associate Degree Completion Program?

- 85 A. Both the Navy and the man will benefit
- 10 B. The man has more to gain than the Navy
- 5 C. The Navy will benefit most
- -- D. Neither the man nor the Navy will benefit

TABLE 1 (Continued)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE

Q19. How long have you been in position to evaluate the ratee on the information contained in the above questions?

- 7 A. One month or less
- 20 B. More than 1 but less than 3 months
- 37 C. Three but less than 5 months
- 29 D. Five but less than 7 months
- 7 E. Seven months or more

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE TABLE 1 (Continued)

		Out- standing Percent		46 100%		44 100%							
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PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE TABLE 1 (Continued)

	NA-Not	. i11	VAL UAT IC	EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE	FORMANCE		
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	No-Not Observed Left Blank	Unsatis- factory	Low Satis- factory	Meets Normal Standard	Highly Satis- factory	Out- standing	Percent
FACTOR II. QUALITY OF WORK							
Accuracy and thoroughness of work	Ŋ			7	49	39	100%
acceptability of work Soundness of indoments and	ო			7	46	44	100%
	ស			20	51	24	100%
ideas or facts Effectiveness in meeting and	2			12	44	39	100%
dealing with people	rC			17	37	41	100%
FACTOR III. PRODUCTIVENESS							
Amount of acceptable work produced Meeting deadlines Technical ability Promptness of action	5 7 5		വ വ വ ന	12 10 7	46 49 37	34 29 20	100%
Progress toward meeting objectives or satisfying demands for actions	4		. 2	15	49	30 8	0001

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES TO COMMANDING OFFICER QUESTIONNAIRE TABLE 1 (Continued)

		NA-Not		VALUATIC	EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE	FORMANCE		
	SOCTORE CALTAG	Applicable or		/S	SATISFACTORY	۲۷		
	MALLING PACIONS	No-Not Observed Left Blank	Unsatis- factory	Low Satis- factory	Meets Normal Standard	Highly Satis- factory	Out- standing	Percent
FACT	FACTOR IV. EFFECTIVENESS							
24.	Laying out work, and estab-							
	lishing standards of perfor-							
	cludes devising adequate stand-							
	ards and Keeping standards up to date	17		0	<u>-</u>	Q.	66	%OC.
25.	Instructing, training and devel-			7	2	4	77	%OO-
		12			12	42	34	100%
26.	Keeping subordinates advised of							<u>.</u>
77	things they should know	ഹ		2	10	44	39	100%
	work and two-way communication	12		5	12	37	34	100%
28.	Establishing conditions conducive				!	i	•	2
29	to work accomplishment	12		က	12	46	27	100%
ì		o		rc	10	49	27	7001
30.	Directing and reviewing the work			,)	<u>:</u>	ì))
1	of subordinates	12		က	12	46	27	100%
31.	Promoting high working morale (includes giving deserved							
	recognition and appropriately							
	supporting subordinates)	10			12	44	34	100%

DISTRIBUTION

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BUPERS (20)
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NAVSHIPSYSCOM
NAVSUBMEDCEN Groton
OASD (M&RA) (MPP)
ONRL Code 2029
SECNAV (M&RA)
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Secu	irity	Clas	sifica	tion

	DOCUMENT CONTI	ROL DATA - R	& D			
	title, body of abstract and indexing a	nnotation must be e	entered when the	overall report is classified)		
1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corpora				CURITY CLASSIFICATION		
	arch and Development	Laboratory	UNCLASS	IFIED		
	vey Research Division	20200	2b. GROUP			
	d, Washington, D. C.	20390	N.A.			
Supervisors' Assessm Completion Program	ments of the Graduates	of the Asso	ociate Degr	ree		
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of re Last of a Series	eport and inclusive dates)					
5. AUTHOR(5) (First name, middle in	itial, last name)					
Tressie W. Muldrow						
6. REPORT DATE	,	78. TOTAL NO. O	F PAGES	7b. NO. OF REFS		
December 1969	:	23		4		
BA. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO.	N.A.	9a. ORIGINATOR'	S REPORT NUME	BER(S)		
b. PROJECT NO.	N.A.	WSR 70-3				
	N.A.					
c.	14.,,,	9b. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)				
d.	N.A.	N.A.				
foreign governments	ject to special expor or foreign nationals r el Research and Develo	nay be made	only with	nsmittal to prior approval		
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES		12. SPONSORING	MILITARY ACTI	VITY		
N.A.		Bureau of Naval Personnel Washington, D. C. 20370				

The objective of this study was to determine how supervisors of ADCOP graduates felt participation in the program affected the graduates' on-the-job performance, and general attitude toward the Navy.

During the last week of July 1968 questionnaires were mailed to each of the supervisors (N=41) of ADCOP's first group of graduating participants. Responses were received from all supervisors.

Findings show that the majority of the supervisors felt the ADCOP graduate was a greater asset to the Navy because of his junior college schooling, and that ADCOP would prove to be beneficial to the Navy and to the men who participate in the program. Nine out of ten supervisors considered the ADCOP graduate better in communication skills and a better representative of the Navy than his non-ADCOP peers.

Supervisors rated at least 70% of the graduates as "highly satisfactory" or "outstanding" on each factor related to their work. The highest ratings were given for areas included under "Adaptability on the Job as a Whole:" These included Cooperation with supervisors; Attitudes, willingness to learn; Dependability and Relations with fellow workers.

UNCLASSIFIED ecurity Classification

- Security Classification	(150	IK A	LIN	K B	4 ***	v 6
KEY WORDS	ROLE		ROLE	к в WT	LIN	
Associate Degree Completion Program (ADCOP) Enlisted Men Evaluation Performance Supervisors	ROLE		ROLE	WT	ROLE	WT
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